

Police seize cache of illegal weapons at a home in Duxbury on Monday

20-year-old Duxbury man under arrest on multiple charges

By Susanna Sheehan
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On Monday, June 26, after a search of a Back River Way house, police arrested a Duxbury man on charges of having illegal weapons and impersonating a police officer.

According to a statement released by Duxbury's Deputy Chief Stephen McDonald Tuesday, after a lengthy investigation that began in Connecticut, Duxbury police detectives obtained an arrest warrant for Christopher Barlow, 20, of Back River Way. McDonald said that Barlow was taken into custody Monday without incident in Plymouth by Duxbury detectives.

After Barlow's arrest, police got a search warrant for his home and motor vehicle. During their search they found "a number of illegal weapons," said McDonald. Other evidence was also seized.

Two pictures released by Duxbury police show a display of approximately five handguns, a rifle, another weapon, bullets, police badges, federal law enforcement badges that resembled ones used by the FBI, handcuffs, portable radios and a ski mask, among other things.



Duxbury police released a photo showing a display of handguns, a rifle and other weapons, bullets, police badges, fake FBI badges, handcuffs, portable radios and a ski mask, among other things. Duxbury Police Chief Matthew Clancy called the cache "extremely troubling" and said his officers acted quickly to arrest the man suspected of stockpiling this arsenal.



Boxes of bullets and Ammunition were found in a Back River Way house on Monday, June 26.

Photos courtesy Duxbury Police Department

"Based on information gathered from other agencies and from previous interviews, it was determined that Barlow possessed fraudulent identification that made it appear that he was a law enforcement officer," said McDonald. "It was also determined that he had purchased the parts to make several firearms. The identification and firearms were recovered during the search of his residence." According to Duxbury Police Chief Matthew Clancy, the investigation into Barlow began with Easton, CT police who contacted Duxbury police after discovering stolen items they believed had allegedly been in Barlow's possession. As part of this investigation, Clancy said the FBI in Connecticut was working with police in that state and the Connecticut State Police bomb squad. Also the U.S. Homeland Security and federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms were involved in the investigation.

Due to the serious nature of the Connecticut investigation, upon which Clancy said he could not comment, Duxbury police decided to act quickly. "We very aggressively started our investigation," said Clancy. "At some point, we brought in the FBI as more troubling aspects came to light."

The chief did not reveal what those were.

In the search of Barlow's home, Duxbury police were joined by members of the Massachusetts State Police Bomb Squad as well as officers from the FBI's EOD, which, Clancy said, is also a bomb squad.

“What we found was extremely troubling,” said Clancy. “We felt we had to act quickly on the arrest and to secure this warrant.”

Duxbury’s police chief said Barlow is known to them but wouldn’t elaborate on the reasons why. In Massachusetts, it is illegal to possess a firearm under the age of 21, said Clancy, adding that Barlow was armed at the time of his arrest and was also allegedly carrying fake law enforcement credentials.

Barlow was charged with illegal possession of a firearm, impersonating a police officer and possession or control of an incendiary device or material. He was held on \$250,000 bail and was arraigned Tuesday at Plymouth district court.

Clancy said further charges may be filed against Barlow pending the outcome of the police investigation, which is ongoing.